


MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR

Herewith are a memorandum and a proposed dispatch to the field which I think are self-explanatory. They were written to amplify to our field stations the recent circular airgram sent out by State redefining the role of their Chiefs of Mission. This dispatch has been coordinated throughout the DD/P. Recommend release.

  
RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.  
Deputy Director  
(Plans)

25 November 1959  
(DATE)

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A

## RECORD OF ACTIONS - 16 July 1959

ACTION  
NUMBER

## 2108. BASIC NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY

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- a. (10) "The acceptance by the people and governments of foreign countries of the presence on their soil of official U.S. personnel directly affects our capability to achieve our national security objectives. To this end, programs should be developed and improved to encourage and strengthen the natural inclination of the individual American to be a good representative of his country and to promote conduct and attitudes conducive to good will and mutual understanding. Each department and agency and senior representatives overseas should seek (a) to ensure that U.S. official personnel understand the importance to the United States of their role as personal ambassadors, (b) to develop programs that promote good personal relations between foreign nationals and U.S. personnel, and (c) to ensure that the total number of U.S. official personnel in each country is held to a strict minimum consistent with sound implementation of essential programs.

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## RECORD OF ACTIONS - 16 July 1959

B

ACTION  
NUMBER

2108. BASIC NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY

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- c. Noted, in connection with the new numbered paragraph in a-(10) above, the President's reference to his previous instructions regarding relations between Chiefs of Diplomatic Missions and representatives of all United States agencies conducting operations in foreign countries, concurred in by the Council and approved by the President in NSC Action No. 1587. The President reiterated his views concerning the importance of the role of Chiefs of Mission in exercising supervision over all official U.S. personnel abroad and in coordinating their activities so that a unified U.S. effort is ensured. In addition, the President emphasized that a Chief of Mission has the responsibility, whenever in his opinion something goes wrong, to report the circumstances immediately to the President through State Department channels, whoever may be involved. The President requested that the Operations Coordinating Board transmit to the field the substance of the new paragraph in a-(10) and the President's views related thereto.

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OPERATIONS COORDINATING BOARD

RECORD OF ACTIONS

BOARD ASSISTANTS' MEETING, OCTOBER 2, 1959

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Agenda Item 5 - Other Business

(a) Implementation of the President's Directive Contained in  
HSC 2108-c

(1) Noted that, at the meeting of the National Security Council on July 16, 1959, the President requested the OGB to transmit to the field (a) the substance of a new paragraph in the Basic National Security Policy dealing with overseas personnel, and (b) the President's reiterated views with respect to the role of the Chiefs of Missions in exercising supervision over all official U.S. personnel abroad.

(2) Noted further that the Board has complied with the President's first request by including the policy paragraph dealing with overseas personnel in the OGB report on this subject, which is being circulated to the field.

(3) Noted a statement to be used as a basis for a communication from the heads of the departments and agencies having official U.S. personnel abroad to their senior field representatives, and agreed that each Board Assistant would bring this statement to the attention of his principal to obtain agency agreement to this procedure by October 2, 1959.

(4) Also agreed that each agency would file with the Executive Officer, for record purposes, a copy of its implementing instruction indicating the addressees.

C

OPERATIONS COORDINATING BOARD

RECORD OF ACTIONS

BOARD ASSISTANTS' MEETING, OCTOBER 2, 1959

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Agenda Item 2 - Agency Statements Implementing President's Directive in  
NSC Action 2108-c

(a) Noted that the item 5a(3), as revised, of the Record of Actions of the Board Assistants' Meeting of September 25, 1959, has been concurred in by the OCB agencies.

(b) Agreed that each Agency would transmit a communication from the head of the agency to its senior field representatives and that there would be no joint messages.

D

OUTGOING  
AIRGRAM

## Department of State

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Classification

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Page 1 of 2 Pages

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58-51

NO. CG-264

FROM: Secretary of State

TO: ALL AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS

TO CHIEF OF MISSION FROM THE SECRETARY

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RMR

The President has directed that each department and agency of the U. S. Government having personnel overseas transmit to its senior field representatives the views of the President set forth below concerning the importance of the role of Chiefs of Mission in exercising supervision over all official U. S. personnel abroad and in coordinating their activities so that a unified U. S. effort is ensured. These views were, in part, conveyed to the Chiefs of all American Diplomatic Missions several years ago, and the President has recently reaffirmed and amplified his views. Paragraph 4 is a new Presidential instruction.

1. The representatives of all United States agencies in each foreign country are subject to the supervision and leadership of the Chief of Mission in connection with any of their activities which in his own judgment affect relations between the United States and the country to which he is accredited. The Chief of Mission must exercise active leadership and supervision in connection with such matters, subject to any general and specific instructions from the President or the Secretary of State.

2. The Chief of Mission has specific additional responsibilities with respect to the Mutual Security, agricultural, informational and related programs referred to in Section 201(b) of Executive Order No. 10575 and in Executive Order 10560. Primary responsibilities for the administration of these programs have been assigned to various United States agencies which maintain direct operating relationships with their representatives abroad. At the country level, however, the Chief of Mission has ultimate responsibility to assure that these program activities are carefully planned and effectively carried out within the framework of established policy, and that they are coordinated with each other. The organizations which are administering these programs at the country level are therefore subject to the supervisory authority of the Chief of Mission in carrying out this responsibility.

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Classification

Airgram transmission and  
classification approved by:

The Secretary

S/S - Mr. Callahan

A - Mr. Brown

M - Mr. Murphy

Mr. Henderson

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3. In discharging his responsibilities the Chief of Mission will need and should have the close collaboration of representatives of all United States agencies. In this connection Section 201(d) of Executive Order No. 10575 which precludes delegation of his functions, should not be interpreted narrowly to obstruct establishment of an effective staff pattern within the country. The ultimate responsibility of the Chief of Mission cannot be delegated, but when directing large and complex operations he necessarily carries out his executive and coordinating functions in some degree through subordinates.

4. The Chief of Mission has the responsibility, whenever in his opinion something goes wrong, to report the circumstances immediately to the President through State Department channels, whoever may be involved.

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